

Freeway proponents organize

Opponents to the South Mountain Loop 202 freeway have organized with a Web page (www.protectazchildren.org) and petition drive.

Last week, supporters of the freeway took a page from the same playbook and began their own campaign to gather support for the freeway.

"I really feel there is a silent majority for the freeway," said

Andy Cross, founder of Complete202.org.

He bought his home in 1998, expecting the freeway to one day make travel to the west easier.

"I was well aware of it, and that's why I bought a mile away," said Cross, a kitchen designer who works valleywide.

"No one should clam any degree of surprise."

Last week, the group's Web page went up at www.complete202.org. He is also planning a petition drive for the freeway.

He said opponents naturally have joined together, but that supporters haven't had a place to go.

"People who support the freeway are the majority, but we are like cats, it's hard to hear cats."

— Doug Murphy, staff writer